



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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Site: www.nrc.gov
Blog: <http://public-blog.nrc-gateway.gov>

No. II-11-024

April 20, 2011

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NRC SCHEDULES MEETING TO DISCUSS 2010 PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR MCGUIRE NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has scheduled a meeting for Wednesday, April 27, to discuss the agency's assessment of safety performance during 2010 at the McGuire nuclear power plant. The plant, operated by Duke Energy, is near Huntersville, N.C., about 17 miles north of Charlotte.

The meeting, in the Energy Explorium, 13339 Hagers Ferry Road in Huntersville, will begin with a presentation at 6:30 p.m., followed by an informal open house ending at 8 p.m.

NRC staff will be available to answer questions on the safety performance of the McGuire plant, as well as the NRC role in ensuring safe plant operation.

"The NRC evaluates nuclear power plants in a systemic and detailed way every year," said NRC Region II Administrator Victor McCree. "The inspections and oversight at McGuire ensure that the plant is operated in a way that protects people and the environment."

A letter sent from the NRC Region II office to plant officials addresses the performance of the plant during 2010 and will serve as the basis for the meeting discussion. It is available on the NRC web site at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/LETTERS/mcg_2010q4.pdf.

The NRC found that the McGuire plant met all NRC safety objectives during 2010. Based on that performance, the two McGuire units will receive detailed baseline NRC inspections in 2011. In addition, the agency will complete inspections related to spent fuel storage and reactor coolant system maintenance. Operator licensing examinations will also be conducted.

The NRC uses color-coded inspection findings and performance indicators to assess plant performance. The colors start with "green," which has very low safety significance, to "white," "yellow" or "red," based on the significance of the issues. Inspection findings and performance indicators are updated on the NRC's web site (www.nrc.gov) each quarter.

Current performance information for McGuire Unit 1 is available on the NRC web site at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/MCG1/mcg1_chart.html. Current information for Unit 2 is at: www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/MCG2/mcg2_chart.html.

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